ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner Jeff Regnart, Director



Contact: Bill Davidson

Phone: (907) 747-6688 Fax: (907) 747-6693 Sitka Area Office 304 Lake Street, Rm. 103 Sitka, Alaska 99835 Date: August 23, 2012 Time: 2:45 p.m.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sitka... The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today the opening of the Southeast Alaska drift gillnet fishery, during the times and in the areas listed below, beginning on Sunday, **August 26**, **2012**:

Section 1-B: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 26, through 12:00 noon, Thursday, August 30, with the following restriction:

<u>Pearse and Portland Canals</u>: will be closed north of the latitude of Akeku Point located at the southern entrance of Edwards Passage.

District 6: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 26, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, August 28, with the following restriction:

Section 6-D: will be closed.

District 8: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 26, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, August 28, with the following restrictions:

<u>Beacon Point/Point Frederick Area</u>: waters of Frederick Sound will be closed west of a line from the District 10 boundary one nautical mile off the Kupreanof Island shoreline to Sukoi Island Light to Point Frederick:

<u>Stikine River</u>: waters off the Stikine River will be closed north and west of a line from Babbler Point to Hour Point along the shore of Wrangell Island to Point Highfield to the southern end of Liesnoi Island to the southern end of Greys Island to the small island near the eastern entrance of Blind Slough to the nearest point of Mitkof Island, and south and east of a line from the prominent point of Mitkof Island nearest Coney Island to the northern end of Coney Island to a point 500 yards north of Jap Creek on the mainland shore.

Section 11-B: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 26, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 29, with the following restrictions:

<u>Port Snettisham</u>: will be closed east of a line from Sentinel Point to a point on the eastern shoreline at 58°01.45' N. latitude, 133°45.35' W. longitude and north of the latitude of Bride Point at 58°06.61'N. latitude;

Limestone Inlet: will be closed.

Section 11-C: will be closed.

Section 15-A: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 26, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 29, in the waters of Lynn Canal, Chilkat Inlet, and in the waters of Chilkoot and Lutak Inlets south of the terminus of the Chilkoot River with the following restriction:

<u>Chilkat Inlet</u>: will be closed north of a line from a regulatory marker at Glacier Point at 59°06.02' N. latitude, 135°22.97' W. longitude to the westernmost tip of Twin Coves at 59°06.58' N. latitude, 135°21.70' W. longitude.

Section 15-A: will also be open from **12:01 p.m.**, **Sunday**, **August 26**, **through 12:00 noon**, **Friday**, **August**, **31**, in the waters of Chilkoot and Lutak Inlet north of the latitude of Mud Bay Point at 59°09.05' N. latitude to the terminus of the Chilkoot River.

Section 15-C: will be open from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, August 26, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, August 29:

The waters of the Boat Harbor Terminal Harvest Area west of a regulatory marker at the entrance to Boat Harbor will remain open until further notice.

King salmon less than 28" that are harvested in the commercial drift gillnet fisheries may be retained and sold. King salmon less than 28" in length, and those of Alaska hatchery origin, will not be counted against the Alaskan allocation of the Pacific Salmon Treaty harvest. The department is discontinuing the use of species code 411 beginning in 2012 to account for small king salmon in drift gillnet fisheries and instead will rely on ADF&G port sampling programs for that purpose. For drift gillnet fisheries, only species code 410 should be used to report king salmon of all sizes. Fish and Game samplers working at the processing facilities will also identify hatchery-reared king salmon so those fish are not counted against the Alaskan share of the harvest.

The emergency order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S7412.

Southeast Alaska Drift Gillnet Harvest Estimates Statistical Week 34 (August 19 through 25) Preliminary Estimates Compiled August 23, 2012

		NUMBER OF SALMON							
								Days	
District	King	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total	Boats	Open	
Section 1-B	10	300	3,000	23,000	7,000	33,310	27	5	
District 6	40	500	4,500	6,500	2,500	14,040	43	2	
District 8	25	50	1,500	500	1,300	3,375	24	2	
District 11	5	18,000	2,000	4,500	1,200	25,705	75	2	
District 15	60	4,000	1,000	24,500	8,400	37,960	50	5	
Deep Inlet THA	0	10	5	4,200	34,000	38,215	40	3	
Total	140	22,860	12,005	63,200	54,400	152,605	•		

	FISH PER BOAT FOR THE PERIOD						
District	King	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total	
Section 1-B	0	11	111	852	259	1,234	
District 6	1	12	105	151	58	327	
District 8	1	2	63	21	54	141	
District 11	0	240	27	60	16	343	
District 15	1	80	20	490	168	759	
Deep Inlet THA	0	0	0	105	850	955	

District 15: harvest numbers are for 3 days of fishing.

News releases web site: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Hoonah	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830		784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000		945-3620	
Gillnet Hotline	225-6870	772-3700			465-8905	766-2830		